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ditions at the time. . . . Achievements came under the stress of material necessity or of a growing mentality seeking means of expression."

Professor Dealey aims to present in Part I the fundamental principles upon which any constructive policy should be based. In the first four chapters he discusses the Place of Sociology among the Sciences, Early Social Development, Achievement and Civilization and Social Psychology. In the following chapters of Part I, the development of social institutions, the family, the state, religion, morals and culture is traced from their beginnings.

But progress tends more and more toward conscious achievement. Having arrived at certain fundamental principles of association and development, the author shows how, with telic purpose, *society* may gradually eliminate ignorance, exploitation, pauperism, crime, intemperance and sexual immorality. Thus society may consciously "accelerate its rate of progress."

The book aims to present the sociological problem as a unit. Some may take issue with the author as to whether much that he has included in his treatment is really sociology at all. This is largely a matter of opinion. At least, he has given the material which seems most necessary for a student who is beginning the study of sociology. The broad field covered has made brevity of statement necessary, which may be regarded sometimes as almost dogmatic, and has precluded a wealth of illustration which must be supplied by the instructor who uses the book as a text. The need of an elementary text in sociology leads us cordially to welcome Professor Dealey's book into the field.

R. E. CHADDOCK.

University of Pennsylvania.

Eastman, F. M. *The Law of Taxation in Pennsylvania.* 2 vols. Pp. xlvi, 1100. Price, \$12.00. Newark: Soney & Sage, 1909.

Aside from the regular reports of the different states dealing with their individual fiscal affairs, little has been written on state and local taxation prior to 1900. Even at the present time the literature on this subject is more or less crudely arranged or limited in scope. It is therefore a matter of more than usual interest that this is a handy, concise reference to the working of taxation machinery in one of the largest and most prosperous commonwealths of the Union.

Excepting one or two topics, the field is thoroughly covered, including the details of assessment and collection, as well as the particular illustrations of various taxes from which the state derives revenue. The methods and powers of taxation of cities of the different classes receive individual attention. A noteworthy addition to the ordinary scope of the work is made by the insertion of a chapter on the Federal Corporation Tax, which is treated without peroration or explanation, in the same legal and analytic manner as the other subjects. Copious citations are appended and a satisfactory index. No attempt is made to theorize, nor does the style permit of argument. The work is a lucid digest of legislation, designed to aid primarily the lawyer and administrator. But to the layman and taxpayer as well it

should prove of value both as a careful compilation and as a much-needed source of information on the subject of taxation.

C. LINN SEILER.

University of Pennsylvania.

Enock, C. R. *Mexico.* Pp. xxxvi, 362. Price, \$3.00. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1909.

This book on Mexico, its ancient and modern civilization, history and political conditions, topography and natural resources, industries and general development, marks a distinct advance over the author's work, "The Andes and the Amazon." While not attempting a detailed presentation of the history of Mexico, nor an exhaustive description of its political and social institutions, the author has given us an exceedingly readable summary of the historical development of the country, and has supplemented this with a vivid description of life in the rural districts and urban centers.

In his study of social conditions Mr. Enock has made a distinct contribution to the subject. His descriptions show clearly how difficult it is to appreciate the point of view of a people whose history, traditions and racial antecedents are totally different from our own. In many cases the author has wisely contented himself with a mere description of what he has seen without any attempt at interpretation.

In his final chapter the author makes some acute observations on the relation of the United States to the Latin-American countries. He points out that the Monroe Doctrine, which was at first looked upon as a guarantee of Latin-American independence, is now viewed with some distrust, as an attempt on the part of the United States to govern the destinies of her sister republics. He shows how misunderstandings have often arisen not caused by any desire on the part of the United States to dominate her neighbors, but by reason of unfortunately worded despatches and state documents, which to the Latin-American mind create the impression of aggressiveness and ulterior designs of domination.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Enock will further pursue his studies of the Latin-American republics, as his works offer a happy combination of the best type of guide-book and introduction to the study of Latin-American social and political conditions.

L. S. ROWE.

University of Pennsylvania.

Fagan, J. O. *Labor and the Railroads.* Pp. 164. Price, \$1.00. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin Company, 1909.

The thought presented in Mr. Fagan's "Confessions of a Railroad Signalman" has been further elaborated and more fully enforced by citation of concrete instances in this later volume. The author's contention is that railway accidents are due to a lax enforcement of rules governing the